

SENATE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 30, 2013

[In these minutes: Tobacco-Free Campus Resolution update; Alcohol Edu update; Topics for next year.]

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: David Golden (chair), Benjamin Beutel, Jayne Blodgett, Laura Duckett, David Fuhs, Stephen Gross, Katie Jacobson, Michael O'Day, Natalie Pope, Naomi Scheman, Teresa Schicker, Eric Svingen, Abeer Syedah, Amelious Whyte

REGRETS: Carol Foth, Brenda Kayzar, Catherine Solheim

ABSENT: Peter Cao, Anthony Quill, Paul Ranelli, Jennifer Snider

WELCOME

Mr. Golden welcomed members, called the meeting to order, and asked for introductions. He then reviewed the charge with members and emphasized that it is very broad. He discussed the resolutions of the committee from the previous year: Triclosan Ban, Lactation Services Support, and Tobacco-Free Campus.

He announced that the Resolution to Implement Lactation Support would go before the University Senate at the October 3rd meeting.

UPDATE: THE UNIVERSITY SENATE PASSED THE RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT LACTATION SUPPORT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS UPDATE

Mr. Golden explained that a work group was brought together over the summer to develop an implementation plan for a tobacco-free campus. The group recommended that the policy be written to establish a tobacco and smoke free campus. E-cigarettes were also included in the policy draft. The discussion has centered on the debate between smoke or tobacco free campus.

Members discussed that it will be important to not dictate and rather educate those regarding the policy. The policy is expected to be implemented in fall 2014.

ALCOHOL EDU UPDATE

Mr. Golden updated the committee on the completion rates of the online education modules completed by first-year students on the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses. All system campuses have the option to purchase a license for their students.

The completion rates for UMNTC were:

- 89% of first-year students that were accepted to attend the Twin Cities campus
- 76% of students invited to UMNTC completed the financial literacy module

Ms. Syedah stated that she completed the modules and that the financial literacy module was the most valuable because it included new information, and it took her 3 hours to complete.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Smart Grid Technology
 - Morris is on a Smart Grid and it has been discussed that this would be an option for all of the campuses.
- How will new Title IX regulations affect students and the University overall?
 - We are currently in compliance for lactation space with regard to staff, but members are unclear if we will still be in compliance with regard to students, based on the new regulations.
- Transportation Safety
 - Potential opportunity for an awareness campaign for transportation safety overall: bicycle, pedestrians, LRT.
 - Collaborate with Student Affairs Committee on this issue.
 - Collaborate with Disabilities Issues or at least garner their support.
- Aurora Center
 - Bystander Education Program - Sexual assault prevention training.
 - Will be discussed in November.
- Student Housing
 - Gender neutral housing needed system-wide, raised at Morris.
 - More housing needed system-wide.
- Regents Scholarship reinstatement
 - What are the financial implications of reinstatement?
- Living Wage Discussion raised by Professor William Durfee, chair, FCC/SCC
 - What percent of people are below living wage?
 - Can the committee provide support if this is mainly a bargaining unit issue?
 - Can this committee generate meaningful feedback on this topic in such a short period of time?
 - What is the exact issue? Mr. Golden will seek clarification on this topic.
- Food services and sources
 - Currently, the University has a contract with Aramark.
 - Local sourcing and nutrition are a focus.
- Potential collaborations with Student Affairs Committee
 - Gender neutral housing.
 - Sexual assault prevention training.

- LRT / Transportation Safety – Contact University Services.
- Panel discussion with owners of student housing complexes near UMNTC campus.
- Food sourcing.

In the interest of time, Mr. Golden adjourned the meeting.

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office